UTAH ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF FAMILLY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

SPRING EDITION May, 2006

Inside this issue:

- President's Message
- Candidate Spotlights

Rachel Gonzalez

Christine Gutke Heidi Weight

Sue Schumacher Lynette Weston



President's Message

By now we are counting the days until school is out. Hopefully, the school year has been a successful one for each of you.

We appreciate those of you who were able to join us for the UACTE Midwinter Conference. After reading the conference evaluations, I would like to address some of your concerns:

First, the conference is not just a FACS conference. It is a UACTE conference that consists of 10 different divisions. Only one of which is Family and Consumer Science. The conference for the most part is held at UVSC to accommodate the many different divisions. We are fortunate to have Lakeridge Junior High School close by in which we have the opportunity to hold our division meetings. This allows us to actually offer some "hands on" classes in the foods and clothing areas. Having our division solely at UVSC would put our classes' great distances apart because of the demand for space and would eliminate the "hands on" classes that are usually the most popular.

Several people want to start the conference later on Saturday, but we have no control of starting and ending time if we continue to offer credit. We have been very fortunate to have credit offerings for a "seat-time" only conference. The time involves not only the classes, but the speakers, as well. Maybe the speaker does not appeal to everyone present, but I still think it beats having to write a follow-up paper after the workshops.

The board is made up of <u>teachers</u> who volunteer their time to plan a conference for the teachers in their divisions. They spend countless hours trying to find classes in each of the subject areas. We repeat some classes to give teachers opportunity to fit a particular class into their schedule. We always offer 5-6 classes each hour for teachers to choose from. If you looked at the program, many divisions have only one class offered each hour. We realize we are not going to please everyone, but great effort is taken to represent each area in the curriculum.

The UACTE board and the division board members put on Midwinter Conference. It does not compete with June CTE conference that is put on by the State Office of Education. Our conference is much smaller and *so is our budget*. Pearl Philipps, State Specialist serves as a member of the UATFACS board and assists us with the conference in many ways. In turn, our organization is responsible for the vendor exhibits at the June CTE conference. Working together, we can offer teachers professional development at different times of the year.

Although it may be inconvenient, returning to UVSC at the end of our division classes for a final speaker and credit forms seems a small price for such easy credit. Again the location accommodates **all** CTE divisions. Asking for credit forms early puts undue pressure on those in charge and can jeopardize this opportunity in the future.

In December I attended the National ACTE Convention in Kansas City with Pam Rock from our board and other UACTE delegates. Pam did a great job running for National NATFACS President. Although the voting delegates were heavy in the southern states and the candidate from Georgia won, Pam did an excellent job representing the FACS teachers of Utah, and should be congratulated for being willing to represent us on a National level.

While networking with teachers across the nation, I am convinced the programs we have in Utah are some of the best in the nation. Don't be afraid to publicize the good things you are doing. Educators have often been accused of "whining" to the legislature, so lets show everyone the great things we do with our limitations! Be pro-active in changing the face of the legislature to candidates supportive of public education.

If you have great things to share, I encourage you to send articles to our professional magazine, TECHNIQUES. The web site is: www.acteonline.org/members/techniques/authorquidelines.cfm

There is a lot of discussion concerning "Reinventing the American High School". ACTE has written a position paper that outlines the role of CTE in the new vision for the American High School. UACTE is in the process of distributing a copy to every high school principal in the state. Further information can be obtained in the current issue of TECHNIQUES.

Next year our Midwinter Conference will be held in the new Dixie High School in St. George, February 23-24, 2007. The theme will be UACTE: Connecting Education to Careers. Registration will be mailed in October and will be available of the UACTE Web site: after January 1.

Thank you for a great opportunity. I have loved serving as your President. I am especially grateful to the dedicated teachers who have volunteered to serve as members of this board and who have worked so hard on your behalf. I also consider it a privilege to have served as a member of the UACTE board for the past two years. This board is made up of some of the most dedicated professionals I have ever met. To work and associate with them has indeed been a privilege. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Linda A. Stokes
UATFACS President

Please read the following information about candidates for UATFACS board. We will be voting at Summer Conference.

PRESIDENT ELECT

Rachel Gonzalez

When asked if I would consider running for UATFACS president again, I thought of all the wonderful opportunities I would be depriving so many incredible people who need their own turn at this position. Probably the biggest and most important thing I learned years ago while serving as UATFACS president was what amazing and talented professionals we have teaching and working in the state of Utah. And to think Martha Stewart makes more money than us!!!!

My association with the board of UATFACS began years ago filling the shoes for a membership chair person who had left the state to marry. I served for several years in this capacity and then moved into the position of President thanks to the support from all of you. My years serving were enlightening and delightful. After a one year "reprieve" I was asked to serve with UATFACS as a member at large. As is always the case, the women on the board are beyond incredible.

I currently teach at Lakeridge Jr. High with the amazing Pam Rock. I am serving on our school Community Council, Steering Committee and Professional Development Team. I am also serving as a Public Relations Chair person for UACTE. Years ago I was privileged to receive the PTA Golden Apple Award. More than the above, I am the mother of two high school students who test me daily, but I love them dearly.

More than anything, I feel our association has a vital roll to play in today's environment. As Mary Englebright so aptly said, "Home is where one starts from." And, Thomas Moore said, "The ordinary acts we practice every day AT HOME are of more IMPORTANCE TO THE SOUL, than their simplicity might suggest." It is critical that we be successful in our endeavors as teachers and as an association in helping society understand the importance our subject matter/content plays in the success of society.

UATFACS TIDBITS May, 2006 Page 3

TREASURER

Christine Gutke

Christine has been teaching at American Fork Junior High for 9 years. She currently is teaching TLC, FACS Exploration, Fashion Strategies, and Sewing I. She has also hosted a scrap-booking club after school for the past 2 years.

Christine grew up in Logan and graduated from Utah State University. She served on the UAFCS board 2004-2005 as Vice President of Work, and 2003-2004 VP of Work Elect.

Her hobbies include gardening, reading, and of course sewing, cooking, etc.. She has recently taken up quilting.

Christine will be getting married this July and will become Christine Grow.

Heidi Weight

Education: BYU Graduate in Home Economics in 1986

Teaching Experience: Substitute teacher in Alpine School District for 4 years; Two years teaching at Young Mothers High School in Provo District; Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Timpanogos High in Alpine District since 1997.

Current Assignment: Interior Design, Financial Literacy, and Sport Sewing School Activities and Committees: FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) Advisor and advisor to three state officers and one national officer candidate; THS Safety and Technology Committees; member of the Timpanogos High School Community Council.

Hobbies and Interests: Outdoor activities, sewing, reading, traveling, spending time with family

Awards: 2001 Outstanding Utah New Teacher of the Year in Family and Consumer Science; 2001 and 2003 Area FCCLA Advisor of the Year. 2005 FCCLA Utah State Advisor of the year. 2006 FCCLA Master Advisor.

One of my most scary and thrilling moments: Parasailing 300 ft above the ocean in the Bahamas.



MEMBERSHIP

Sue Schumacher

I have been teaching Foods and ProStart for 18 years at Pleasant Grove High. I have a masters' equivalency in Culinary Arts though Alpine School District.

I have five children, 4 married and one just graduated. I love to travel and read mysteries in my 'off' time. I enjoy the out of doors and playing with our horses, dogs and cats. We enjoy entertaining and remodeled our home to accommodate large gatherings.

I feel it is very important to be involved in a professional organization. UATFACS membership encourages its members to stay up to date and involved in national and local Family and Consumer Science politics. Every vote counts.

Lynette Weston

My name is Lynette Weston and I'm from Bountiful. I've been teaching FACS for a year and a half at the Jr. High I attended 12 years ago.

I attended Utah State University and loved every minute of it. My mother also went into this profession so I've really been in training all my life. I love teaching and can't see myself doing anything else!

I also enjoy being outside and doing stuff with my family.



"Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much"

--Helen Keller~